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SECTION H

LOWESTOFT PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1939

1 Shipping Entering the Port during the year 1939

Table A

Number Inspected				
By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	Number reported to be defective	Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of Vessels reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
3	156	41	36	-

Table C

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS

Disease	No of cases during the Year		No. of Vessels concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
-	-	-	-

Table D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURING ON VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL

Disease	No. of Cases during the Year		No. of Vessels concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
-	-	-	-

No case of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox or Typhus occurred on any vessel during its voyage to this Port.

CASES OF SICKNESS ENTERING THE PORT DURING 1939

Three cases of sickness were examined by the Port Medical Officer or his Deputy in vessels entering the Port. After the exclusion of any possibility of infectious disease, appropiate action was advised for the disposal of each case for treatment either at home or in hospital.

There has been no change during the year in the administration of the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933, or in the Measures Taken Against Rodents, the permanent arrangements for which have been fully described in previous years.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR

TABLE E.

(1) On vessels

Number of rats	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total in Year
Destroyed	-	-	-	12	84	144	60	12	-	36	156	252	756
Examined	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infected with plague	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The above figures are of necessity estimated due to the boats leaving for sea immediately after disinfestation work had been carried out.

During the year the corporation rat catcher carried out disinfestation by means of poisoning and trapping on 63 boats, this work entailing 89 visits.

TABLE F

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

It is regretted that again no figures are available of the number of rats destroyed in the docks, quays, wharves and warehouses despite urgent representations by the Port Health Authority during the year to the London and North Eastern Railway Company. The Company has ownership of all the dock premises and warehouses, employing their own rat catcher who attends at the docks for at least two days in each month.

TABLE H.

Lowestoft is not a port approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of Deratization Certificates.

Two boats arrived without a valid certificate. The Port Medical Officer at the next port of call was written in one instance and in the remaining one the Master was requested to obtain same as soon as possible.

HYGIENE OF CREW'S SPACES

TABLE J

Classification of nuisances

Number of vessels inspected during Year	Defects of original construction	Structural defects through wear and tear	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health
156	1	3	37

FOOD INSPECTION

(1) Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937, the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1939, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations 1926, and the Public Health, (Shellfish). Regulations, 1934.

With the exception of fish there is very little importation of food to the port.

During the year, 5tons 9cwt. of fish were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

(2) Shellfish

There are no shellfish beds in this area.

(3) Number of Samples of Food examined by:-

(a)	Bacteriologist	Nil
(b)	Analyst	Nil

(Sgnd.) V. R. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health.